

WE CLAIM:

1. An enteral composition comprising:  
a protein source consisting of hydrolyzed whey protein;  
a carbohydrate source; and  
5 a lipid source including a mixture of medium and long chain triglycerides, the enteral composition having a caloric density of at least 1.4 kcal/mL, wherein the composition provides a ratio of non-protein calories per gram nitrogen of at least 90:1.
2. The enteral composition of Claim 1 wherein the lipid source comprises  
10 approximately 20% to 50% of the calorie distribution of the composition.
3. The enteral composition of Claim 1 including 100% of U.S. RDA of vitamins and minerals in approximately 1500 kcal.
- 15 4. The enteral composition of Claim 1 wherein the protein source comprises approximately 15% to about 20% of the calorie distribution of the composition.
- 20 5. The enteral composition of Claim 1 wherein the composition includes per 1500 kcal of composition:  
a zinc source providing from approximately 28.5 to 43.5 mg;  
a vitamin C source providing from approximately 405 to 615 mg;  
a selenium source providing from approximately 60 to 90 mg;  
a taurine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg; and  
25 a L-carnitine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg.
6. The enteral composition of Claim 1 further including a source of beta-

carotene.

7. A method for providing nutrition to a metabolically stressed patient comprising the step of administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount  
5 of a composition comprising:

a protein source comprising approximately 15% to about 20% of the calorie distribution of the composition, the protein source consisting of hydrolyzed protein;

a carbohydrate source;

a lipid source ;

10 the enteral composition having a caloric density of at least 1.4 kcal/mL; and  
the composition provides a ratio of non-protein calories per gram nitrogen of at least approximately 90:1.

8. The method of Claim 7 wherein the lipid source comprises  
15 approximately 20% to 50% of the calorie distribution of the composition.

9. The method of Claim 7 wherein the composition includes 100% of U.S.  
RDA of vitamins and minerals in approximately 1500 kcal.

20 10. The method of Claim 7 wherein the composition is fed through a tube to the patient.

11. The method of Claim 7 wherein the composition contains approximately  
0.37% of the calories as cysteine.

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12. The method of Claim 7 wherein the composition includes per 1500 kcal of composition:

a zinc source providing from approximately 28.5 to 43.5 mg;  
a vitamin C source providing from approximately 405 to 615 mg;  
a selenium source providing from approximately 60 to 90 mg;  
a taurine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg; and  
5 a L-carnitine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg.

13. The method of Claim 7 wherein the composition further includes a source of beta- carotene.

10 14. An enteral composition for a metabolically stressed patient comprising:  
about 15% to about 20% of the calorie distribution of the composition  
consisting essentially of hydrolyzed whey protein;  
a carbohydrate source comprising at least 35% of the composition;  
a lipid source comprising at least 20 by weight of the composition; and  
15 the composition having a caloric density of at least 1.4 kcal/mL and a ratio of  
non-protein calories per gram of nitrogen of at least about 90:1.

15 15. The enteral composition of Claim 14 which includes, per 1500 kcal:  
a zinc source providing from about 28.5 to about 43.5 mg zinc;  
20 a vitamin C source providing about 405 to 615 mg vitamin C;  
a selenium source providing about 60 to about 90 mg selenium;  
a taurine source providing about 120 to about 180 mg taurine; and  
a L-carnitine source providing about 120 to about 180 mg L-carnitine.

25 16. The enteral composition of Claim 14 which has a caloric density of  
about 1.4 to about 1.8 kcal/mL.

17. The enteral composition of Claim 14 wherein the composition further

comprises from about 0.1% to 2.0% free amino acids.

18. The enteral composition of Claim 14 including at least 0.1% free amino acid.

19. A method for providing nutrition to a metabolically stressed patient comprising the step of administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising:

a protein source comprising approximately 15% to about 20% of the calorie distribution of the composition, the protein source consisting essentially of hydrolyzed whey protein;

a carbohydrate source;

a lipid source ;

the enteral composition having a caloric density of at least 1.4 kcal/mL; and

the composition provides a ratio of non-protein calories per gram nitrogen of at least approximately 90:1.

20. The method of Claim 19 wherein the composition includes 100% of U.S. RDA of vitamins and minerals in approximately 1500 kcal.

21. The method of Claim 19 wherein the composition includes per 1500 kcal of composition:

a zinc source providing from approximately 28.5 to 43.5 mg;

a vitamin C source providing from approximately 405 to 615 mg;

a selenium source providing from approximately 60 to 90 mg;

a taurine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg;

a L-carnitine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg; and

a source of beta- carotene.

22. The method of Claim 19 wherein the composition further comprises at least 0.1% free amino acids.

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